

Application Number 10/547532
Response to the Office Action dated February 11, 2009

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for screening of a substance that exhibits brain/nerve cell protective action, which comprises

(1) measuring and comparing

a signal transduction activity in a cell capable of producing a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:8 in the presence of a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2, a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by amino acid numbers 1 to 70 in SEQ ID NO:2, or a salt thereof and

the signal transduction activity in the presence of the protein consisting of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2, the protein consisting of the amino acid sequence represented by the amino acid numbers 1 to 70 in SEQ ID NO:2 or a salt thereof and a test compound; and

(2) identifying the test compound that inhibits the signal transduction activity using a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence of amino acid number 1 and after in the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2, 4 or 6, a partial peptide thereof, or a salt thereof.

13-23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) A method for screening of a substance that exhibits brain/nerve cell protective action, which comprises

(1) measuring and comparing a binding activity between

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a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2, a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by amino acid numbers 1 to 70 in SEQ ID NO:2, or a salt thereof and

a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:8 or a salt thereof

in presence and absence of a test compound; and

(2) identifying the test compound that inhibits the binding activity.